

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the Claims as follows:

Please amend the following Claims:

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1. (Amended) A retaining spool for a PC board for retaining a length of fiber optic cable comprising:

a body portion, the body portion including a channel formed about the periphery thereof for receiving the fiber optic cable in an arc having a radius greater than a minimum bend radius of the fiber optic cable; and

a plurality of legs extending from the body portion, each of the legs sized and shaped to be received in an opening formed in the PC board, for securing the retaining spool to the PC board.

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5. (Amended) The retaining spool of claim 2 where the body portion includes a plurality of posts formed on the center portion, the posts being inserted into corresponding openings formed in the upper and lower flange portions for positioning the flange portions on the center portion.

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9. (Amended) The retaining spool of claim 1 wherein the legs extend from the body angled outwardly.

18. (Amended) A method of operation of a retention spool adapted to be mounted directly to a PC board for retaining a length of fiber optic cable thereto, comprising:

providing a channel about the periphery of the retention spool, the channel having a radius greater than a minimum bend radius of the fiber optic cable;

providing a plurality of openings through the PC board in a spaced apart configuration;

applying inward pressure to a plurality of legs on the retention spool;

inserting each the leg into a corresponding one of the plurality of openings on the PC board;

releasing the inward pressure from the plurality of legs to retain the retention spool to the PC board;

inserting the length of fiber optic cable into the channel in the retention spool; and retaining the length of fiber optic cable to the retention spool.